types. Assuming, therefore, that *Neoseps* feeds to the extent of its awareness of and ability to take potential food, the high utilization of only a few kinds of prey can be explained by the following. 2) The sand skink has specialized habits and occupies a narrow and well defined microhabitat within restricted and xeric macrohabitats (Cooper, 1953; Telford, 1959, 1962). It is quite reasonable therefore to suppose that a relatively limited variety of suitable prey is available to *Neoseps,* with only a few kinds available consistently.

Mount (1963, pp. 364-366) examined the digestive tracts of 460 (257 with food) *Eumeces egregius,* another small "sand-swimming" skink that lives in the same habitats as *Neoseps. E. egregius* readily eats termites and elaterid beetle larvae in captivity, but these insects occurred, respectively, in only 0.8 per cent and 4.7 per cent of the sample. Mount did not state whether the sample includes all specimens or only those with food, but we presume the latter. Roaches, spiders, and crickets (41.0, 36.2, and 20.2 per cent occurrence, respectively) are the primary foods of *E. egregius.* In marked contrast, *Neoseps* feeds mainly on beetle larvae and termites and takes the other items only on occasion (table 1). Mount (p. 365) concluded that *E. egregius* feeds mostly in sheltered situations, as in pre-existing subterranean passages, and implied that *Neoseps,* which is a more specialized burrower, feeds in different situations. Telford (1959) observed that captive sand skinks feed mostly below the ground surface. Certainly, the large quantities of sand in the digestive tracts of many *Neoseps* suggest that prey is frequently seized while the lizard is in the actual process of burrowing.

Because of the sheer abundance and availability of arthropods, competition for food perhaps is not often important in the ecology of generalized insectivorous animals (i.e., those not overly specialized and hence capable of taking a wide variety of insects and other arthropods); in most environments, other factors are likely to limit populations before food supply becomes critical. We have no idea of carrying capacity of the microhabitats occupied by the specialized *Neoseps* and *E. egregius,* but venture to speculate that food competition between these two would limit one or both populations, and that natural selection has been instrumental in reducing such competition. It seems quite clear that similar structural, behavioral, and probably physiological adaptations allow *Neoseps*

reynoldsi and *Eumeces egregius* to occupy the same spatial microhabitat, but that different degrees, not kinds, of adaptation (see Mount, 1963, p. 364) allow for slightly different habits and hence exploitation of different foods within the microhabitat.

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